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PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

in re

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

NORIAKI MATSUI

Application No.: 09/909,877

Filed: July 23, 2001

For: IMAGE READING APPARATUS

Examiner: Cheukfan Lee

Group Art Unit: 2622

Confirmation No.: 3238

March 16, 2005

Mail Stop RCE

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to further examination on the merits, Applicant requests that the

Examiner enter the following amendments: